

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the application.

Originally filed claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 14-16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 27, 28, 32, 33 were rejected.

Originally filed claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 9-13, 17, 18, 21, 24-26 and 29-31 were objected.

Claims 1, 6, 10, 22, 24, 27, 30, 31, and 32 have been amended.

Claims 9, 23, 28, 29, and 33 have been cancelled.

Claim 34 has been added.

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Examiner's Office Action dated May 1, 2006.

This Office Action rejected some claims, but indicated that others are allowable. In light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of all pending claims.

Independent claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. The Examiner indicates that this rejection can be overcome by replacing the "computer readable medium" with "computer storage readable medium." Applicants have amended claim 27 along the lines suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 27 is in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 101.

The Office Action indicated that claim 9 was allowable. Claim 9 depends directly from independent claim 1. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowed claim 9. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 22 has been amended to include the limitations added to independent claim 1. Independent claim 22 is now substantially similar to independent claim 1.

Independent claim 27 has been amended to include the limitations set forth in independent claim 9. Independent claim 27 is now substantially similar to independent claim 1

Insofar as independent claim 1 is allowable, it follows that independent claims 22 and 27 are likewise allowable. Newly added claim 34 is originally filed claim 1 with the limitations of originally filed dependent claims 4 and 5 added thereto. The Office Action indicated that originally filed claim 5 was allowable. Applicants submit that newly added claim 34, with the limitations of originally filed dependent claims 4 and 5 added thereto, is in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 22, and 27. Insofar as these independent claims have been shown to be patentably distinguishable, it follows that the remaining claims are likewise patentably distinguishable.

CONCLUSION

Applicant(s) submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450, on June 21, 2006.



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6/21/06

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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